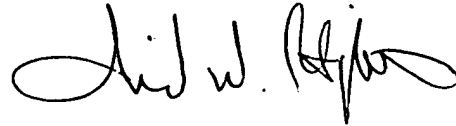


In view of the lack of any teaching or suggestion of such alkalization by Buck et al., it is submitted that the present claims are in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David W. Highet". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

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